(a) whether the Planning Commission in its mid-term appraisal of Tenth Five Year Plan has recommended for winding up of CGHS for Government servants;

(b) whether the Planning Commission in the same appraisal has also recommended for introduction of a new insurance scheme for Government Servants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY .WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The recommendations, if any, of the Planning Commission on the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS),and inclusion of a new insurance scheme will be reflected in the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan, which is presently under finalisation.

Sickle Cell Anaemia

†3971. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that hereditary abnormality is increasing in some castes and communities due to the disease known as "sickle Cell" prevailing in whole Western Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and some pockets of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the remedial action taken by Government to ensure that hereditary abnormalities do not increase;

(c) whether some NGOs and social institutions are also working in this area and getting financial assistance from abroad; and

(d) if so, to what extent financial assistance is being received by them alongwith details of arrangements for its monitoring?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) According to the Indian Council of Medical Research, there is no centralised State-wise registry regarding prevalence of sickle cell disease. Sporadic studies

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

conducted in four States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil nadu and Orissa have revealed that its prevalence rate varies from 0.6% to 25% in the studied population. According to ICMR, the disease is also prevalent in the States of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and North-Eastem region of the country.

According to ICMR through its network of institutes/centres etc. it has carried out intervention and follow up activities in regard to Sickle Cell Anaemia. As these disorders are hereditary in nature and there is no cure for them, diagnostic facilities for sickle cell disorder and other genetic defects, carrying out population genetic survey to detect carriers and sufferers, providing health education, genetic counselling, marriage counselling and pre-natal diagnosis wherever required are being provided.

Information relating to financial assistance from abroad to some NGOs and social institutions and monitoring arrangements thereof is not centrally available.

Crimes in City Hospitals

3972. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that city hospitals are fast becoming dens for criminals where heinous crimes like rapes, molestation, kidnapping of infants and even murder have been taking place;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents which took place during-each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of the remedial steps proposed to be taken to arrest the rising trend of such crimes in hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) In Safdarjang Hospital, a case of rape of minor girl was reported in the year 2004 in which the accused doctor had been arrested. In so far as other Central Government Hospitals like Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and Associated Hospitals (LHMC) are concerned, no such cases of crimes like rapes, molestation, kidnapping of infants/ murder have been reported during the last three years.